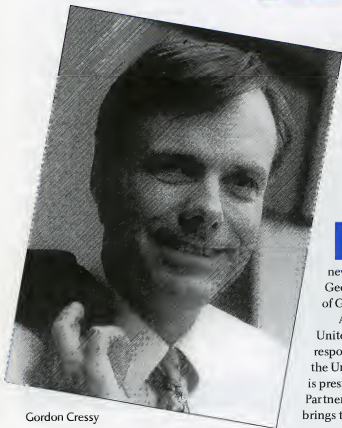


News



Gordon Cressy

New members join college board

Former city alderman and fundraiser Gordon Cressy was one of four new members appointed to the George Brown College Board of Governors in September.

A former president of the United Way and vice-president responsible for fundraising at the University of Toronto, Cressy is president of the Learning Partnership, an organization that brings together business, education

and community to create learning and career opportunities for young people.

He calls George Brown College "the best-kept secret" in Toronto.

"If I had a grand dream, it would be that everyone in Toronto looks at George Brown with affection as a courageous institution that is a significant community builder" he says.

Joining Cressy in filling vacancies on the board are Maureen Loweth, Warner Woodley and Anthony Connell.

Loweth, vice-president and national director of the Fidelity Institute, the training arm of Fidelity Investments Canada Limited, represents an important connection to the financial services industry.

Woodley is the president and CEO of Mainstream Access, a career transition and organizational renewal consulting firm. He is a former vice-president of Abitibi-Price, Husky Oil and Inco.

Connell, a third-year Electrical Engineering Technology student at George Brown, is the new student representative on the board.

"Our new members bring a wealth of experience to the college from key sectors in our community that are critical to our strategic direction," says college president Frank Sorochinsky. "We will all benefit from their active participation in the affairs of the college."

Staff members become students again

As well as teaching at George Brown, continuing education instructor Joseph Gagliardi takes courses every chance he gets.

The microcomputer instructor is one of hundreds of George Brown staff who takes advantage of the many professional development opportunities available through the Staff Resource Centre.

"I'd say I've taken a good 20 courses over the last two years," says Gagliardi. "Everything from developing interviewing skills and learning to write course objectives and outcomes, to how to purchase a home and how to start your

own business. I find them informative and helpful. They're also free of charge, so the price is right."

Leo Spindel, manager of the Staff Resource Centre, says many staff feel as Gagliardi does. Last year, the centre ran 97 courses with over 1,200 registrants. The wide variety of courses, which run from a few hours to a full day, are designed to meet the needs expressed by staff and help them both professionally and personally.

"It's certainly a clear indication that people at George Brown have a strong

Last spring, a number of faculty members and I had the opportunity to view and discuss a video entitled, *The Colour of Fear*, an award-winning documentary which looks at race relations through the eyes of eight men of various ethnicities. We were all impressed with the video and its messages.

On a personal level, I found the video helpful in trying to understand things from the perspective of others. Because we tend to view the behaviour and actions of others from within the parameters of our own experiences, it is often difficult for us to

understand those whose terms of reference are different from our own. The video does a marvelous job of allowing us to begin to

understand these differences and how they affect the reactions, behaviour and feelings of others.

As a result of viewing the documentary, we are now pursuing a number of initiatives and outcomes. Using a similar format of relatively unstructured discussion, we intend to explore other subjects of interest to faculty, support staff and administrators. We are also looking at the development of general education courses, or other education modules, based on the video's notion of allies – those with whom we can share experiences and work with to improve awareness of issues throughout the college. We believe that in order to make progress in this area, we will need to work at it continuously.

While *The Colour of Fear* addresses diversity as it applies to race, there are many other aspects relating to this important subject. It is essential that we work towards improving our understanding of them all. If you would like to see the video, or others addressing the subject of diversity, contact Mary Samuel at 415-4646.

— FRANK SOROCHINSKY



College enrolment up

September enrolment figures are up five percent over last year at George Brown and registrar George Burton says, "it's a positive beginning."

"The key now is how well we manage to retain students," says Burton, adding that enrolment was particularly good in the new financial planning program which has 91 first-year students enrolled in the full-time program.

Enrolment was also strong in the information technology, hospitality, allied health and fashion programs.

College vice-president Bob Struthers said that in addition to responding to increased student demand, meeting enrolment targets is particularly important because of the way in which colleges are funded by the Ministry of Education and Training. "If the college system grows, we must grow as well to avoid a financial penalty. Since our funding is based on enrolment over a three year average, this year's intake will affect George Brown's funding for years to come."

Actual domestic post-secondary enrolment in September was 8,882 students, exceeding the target of 8,820. The international post-secondary target was 180 with 192 actually enrolling.

The focus will now be on helping students to cope with the critical first six to eight weeks of college life.

"We're doing a number of things to help students stay in school," says Franky Chernin, George Brown's co-ordinator of student success. "The main reason students drop out at this time of year is financial. They're not prepared for the degree of financial responsibility."

To help, the college has issued \$10,000 worth of \$25 book store vouchers; allocated \$11,000 to the three student food banks run by the Student Association; and is offering student bursaries of up to \$500 each and a student emergency fund to deal with illness, theft or family emergencies. Students can also apply for jobs as tutors and peer advisors at the college.

This year, Alumni Affairs is also providing student bursaries for books, transportation, professional development and computer and software upgrading.

To further assist students in coping with academic challenges, students can take advantage of QuickTips workshops being offered which address subjects such as study skills, note taking and time management.

George Brown People

The Human Resources Department has told us of the following staff changes:

New administrative staff: *John Michelini* in the Centre for Hospitality and Tourism.

New academic staff: *Anne Marie Stoneburgh* in Community Services.

Academic staff returning to full-time positions include: *Paul Balog* in Technology; *Joanne Clare* in Community Services; and *Jeff Santos* in the Centre for Hospitality and Tourism.

Retiring from the college are: *Lloyd Dundas* of Business and Creative Arts; *Ralph Lai* of English Language Programs; *Giuseppe Manocchio* of Facilities Management; and *Karl Neumann* of Technology.

Leaving the college are: *Kate Airlie*, *Astier Ghebrehewot*, *Margaret Lavery*, *Ann Lillegod*, *Tracey Maxwell*, *Nancy Moore*, *Dino Nassivera* and *Sudha Valookaran*.

The Employee Service Recognition Awards will be held Oct. 30 to recognize staff who have been working full-time at the college for 10 or 15 years. The awards will be presented at a wine and cheese reception with college president Frank Sorochnsky. Staff who think they are eligible for an award but have not received a questionnaire from the Human Resources Department should call Roberta Oullahan at ext. 4473.

Way to Go! – George Brown Success Stories

Plumbing Event Tightens Ties with Industry

An industry open house held by the college's Plumbing Department in late August was a resounding success. About 225 industry representatives attended the event, where Plumbing student Rick Van Ekelburg was honoured with a \$500 industry-sponsored achievement award. Trade Plumbing Supplies was the major sponsor of the evening, which included an open bar and catered dinner in the Casa Loma Campus gymnasium. Professor Lou Taristano said the Plumbing program received many donations in materials at the event, including copper, cast-iron pipe, plumbing fixtures and faucets. The entire cost of the open house was covered by the fee charged to manufacturers who rented display booths at the event.

Architectural Faculty Team Honoured

A faculty team in the Architectural Technology Program was nominated by the Provincial College Committee on Special Needs for the Glenn Crombie Award which goes to a person or group of persons working outside the special needs area and recognizes their contribution to a special needs initiative. The team included John Wills, Miro Klement, Ron Jeram and Gary Hodson.

ECE Professor Elected President of Provincial Organization

Early Childhood Education professor Colleen Thomas was elected president of the Association of Early Childhood Educators, Ontario this summer. The 2,000 member AECEO promotes the professional development and recognition

of early childhood educators in Ontario. Thomas is also a Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition faculty member.

GBC Team to Represent Canada at Student Culinary Olympics

George Brown has been chosen to represent Canada at the World Culinary Olympics in Berlin in 2000. Selected by the Canadian Society of Chefs and Cooks, the George Brown team will also compete in several other international student culinary competitions over the next three years, including the Expogast World Cup in Luxembourg in 1998 and the Basel Grand Prix in Switzerland in 1999. Hospitality and Tourism faculty Ian Grady,

Tom Gibson and Edward Wright will coach the team. Over the next year, several competitions will be held at George Brown to choose five students to make up the student team.

Instrumentation Students Compete in California

George Brown College Instrumentation students are off to Anaheim, California this month to compete at the 1997 International Student Competition. The students are under the leadership of Instrumentation professor Leo Salemi. Funding for the event was provided through the Toronto section of the International Society for Measurement and Control and local industries.



Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall chatted with CBC students on a recent stop in her megacity mayoralty campaign.

Students Again Continued from pg. 1

interest in enhancing their skills and developing themselves," says Spindel, adding that the courses attract a broad range of personnel from across the college, including faculty, management and support staff.

He says the most popular courses are the computer training workshops, but some "softer skill" courses, such as *Writing That Gets Results*, *Establish Instant Rapport*, *Using Positive Humour* and *Dealing with Difficult People*, are also very popular.

The Centre also collaborates with other colleges on events, such as the annual metro colleges part-time teachers' conference at Humber College this month.

In addition to enhancing skills, Gagliardi says the courses provide an opportunity to meet other staff, share experiences and learn from each other. "I'm just really grateful that the college provides this kind of opportunity," he says.

"The college is strongly committed to supporting the professional development

of our staff and we are delighted that the services of the Staff Resources Centre are being well utilized," says Sally Roy, vice-president of Human Resources.

For more information on the programs offered by the Staff Resource Centre or a fall calendar, call Linda Purser at ext. 4661.

Staff discounts are also available on post-secondary and continuing education classes. Part-time staff can take advantage of discounts on continuing education classes.

Con. Ed. teachers make a difference

George Brown's outstanding continuing education teachers were honoured by the college at a reception last month.

About 100 teachers, representing the top teachers in four categories of a student survey, and 13 teachers who were the best in the four categories combined, received a letter from Academic vice-president Maureen Callahan and a college memento.

"These are the best of the best, according to their students," says continuing education chair Susan Horne. "Students are telling us these teachers really do make a difference."

Teachers were identified from a survey that students fill out in every continuing education class at George Brown. The survey asks a wide range of questions about the quality of college services and instruction. The teachers who were honoured were chosen from answers to questions relating to knowledge of the subject, presentation of the subject, course content and instructor overall.

It was the second year a reception has been held for continuing education faculty and the first year that specific teachers were recognized. "This year, we decided to

take advantage of the fact that we have survey information telling us who students say are really outstanding," says Horne.

George Brown has been conducting a continuing education survey for many years. Other colleges have since started to do surveys and last fall a province-wide survey was conducted for the first time.

"Our survey results are among the best in the province. We have very, very good teachers and we need to keep telling them that," says Horne.

CALENDAR

Oct. 8 Board of Governors meeting, 5:30 p.m. Call ext. 4472 if you plan to attend.

Oct. 10 Windows '95 Introduction, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call ext. 4661 to register.

Oct. 16 Establish Instant Rapport workshop, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Room C234, Casa Loma Campus. Call ext. 4661 to register.

Oct. 16 Higher Education Forum, 3:30 to 5 p.m. Call ext. 4661 for more information.

Oct. 21 Board of Governors Finance and Property committee meeting, 5:30 p.m. Call ext. 4472 if you plan to attend.

Oct. 21 The World Wide Web workshop, 9 a.m. to noon, Bell Centre Multimedia Lab, Casa Loma Campus. Call ext. 4661 to register.

Oct. 21 Effective Student Management: Resolving Conflict in the Classroom, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call ext. 4661 for more information.

WITHOUT YOU THERE WOULD BE NO WAY

October is United Way month at George Brown College. Watch for your individual pledge forms arriving the first week of October and please help to make this year's campaign a success. Individual donors will be eligible for exciting draw prizes.

The annual United Way campaign raises funds for 205 essential health and social service agencies serving more than one million people in Metro Toronto. For more information, contact Brian Cooper, Dean of Hospitality and Tourism, at ext. 2230.

Oct. 22 Aerobathon, 12 to 4 p.m., gymnasium, Casa Loma Campus. Call ext. 2296 for more information.

Oct. 22 Board of Governors Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting, 5:30 p.m. Call ext. 4472 if you plan to attend.

Oct. 23 The World Wide Web workshop, 9 a.m. to noon, Bell Centre Multimedia Lab, Casa Loma Campus. Call ext. 4661 to register.

Oct. 25 Creative Methods of Teaching and Learning, annual metro colleges' part-time teachers' conference, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Humber College. Call ext. 4661 for more information or to register.

Oct. 29 WordPerfect 6.1 Intermediate, 9 a.m. to noon; concludes Nov. 5. Call ext. 4661 to register.

Oct. 31 Videoconference: How to Become an OSCAR Winning Teacher, 1 to 3 p.m., Bell Centre Teleconference Lab, Casa Loma Campus. Call ext. 4661 for more information.

Oct. 31 FTP and Advanced Internet, 9 a.m. to noon; concludes Nov. 7. Call ext. 4661 to register.

Single parents support group being formed
Exploratory meetings for a support group for single parents who are full-time students will be held in campus counselling offices between 12 noon and 1 p.m. as follows:

St. James – Tuesday, October 14

Nightingale – Friday, October 17

Casa Loma – Wednesday, October 22

For more information, contact Lois Athanasios at ext. 2107.

BRING A GRADE 9 STUDENT TO WORK ON NOV. 5

George Brown staff are invited to bring a Grade 9 student to work with them on Wednesday, Nov. 5, 1997.

The student can be a son, daughter, niece, nephew, other relative or even a neighbour or family friend.

Take Our Kids to Work Day is being organized by The Learning Partnership, a non-profit organization, which expects that more than 400,000 Grade 9 students across the country will spend Nov. 5 finding out about working life.

We welcome success stories about you or your colleagues. **Deadline for submissions for the November issue is October 15.**

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Room 542-E, 200 King St. E.
Toronto, Ontario
Fax: (416) 415-2303
Phone: (416) 415-2900 ext. 6397
c/o Yasmin Walli
e-mail: yswalli@gbrownc.on.ca

Editor: Peggy Robinson
Writer: Doreen Pitkeathly

 **George Brown**
The City College